

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application and previous amendments.

Amendment to the Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A machine for piercing sheets of material comprising:
 - an adjustable apparatus that can be moved by hand;
 - the adjustable apparatus acts as a stop to a moveable cutting die containing a punch pattern thereby varying an amount of the punch pattern cut into a sheet of material being punched;
 - the moveable cutting die is designed with a cutting surface so that said adjustable apparatus can limit the amount of said sheet of said material cut by said cutting surface;
 - the adjustable apparatus can be moved to a position so that said designed pattern of said punch is cut fully out of said sheet of said material by the movement of said moveable cutting die;
 - a frame which holds said adjustable apparatus and said moveable punch cutting die with said moveable cutting die held in the top of said frame and a hole corresponding to said moveable cutting die in a base of said frame wherein said frame

aligns said moveable cutting die to said hole allowing for said moveable cutting die to be moved through said hole;

a fixed size slot in said frame with said fixed size slot extending partially through said frame to accept and restrain said sheet of said material prior to said sheet of said material being punched;

a means to activate said moveable cutting die moving said cutting die to where it contacts said sheet of said material in said fixed size slot cutting said sheet of said material;

and a spring installed within said frame to return said moveable cutting die to a starting position allowing easy removal of said sheet of said material.

2.(previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 1 wherein said cutting surface of said moveable cutting die is formed in a curved shape.

Claims 3, 4 (Canceled)

5.(previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 1 wherein said adjustable apparatus is an externally threaded piece of hardware that is located in a matching threaded insert attached to said frame such that said externally threaded piece of hardware can be rotated within said threaded insert moving said threaded piece of hardware up and down thereby adjusting and controlling the amount of travel of said moveable cutting die and acting as said stop.

Claims 6-8 (Canceled)

9. (previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 1 wherein said means to activate said moveable cutting die is a thumb controlled lever in sliding contact with said moveable cutting die thereby creating the necessary motion when said lever is pushed by said thumb..

Claim 10 (Canceled)

11. (previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a housing to enclose said frame and to permanently enclose a portion of said means of activating said moveable cutting die.

12. (previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 1 wherein a portion of said adjustable apparatus is fabricated as an integral part of said housing.

Claims 13- 15 (Canceled)

16.(currently amended) A machine for piercing sheets of material comprising:

an adjustable apparatus that can be moved by hand;

the adjustable apparatus acts as a stop to a moveable cutting die containing a punch pattern thereby varying an amount of the punch pattern cut into a sheet of material being punched;

the moveable cutting die is designed with a cutting surface so that said adjustable apparatus can limit the amount of said sheet of said material cut by said cutting surface;

the adjustable apparatus can be moved to a position so that said designed pattern of a punch is cut fully out of said sheet of said material by the movement of said moveable cutting die;

a frame which holds said adjustable apparatus and said moveable punch cutting die with said moveable cutting die held in the top of said frame and a hole corresponding to said moveable cutting die in a base of said frame wherein said frame aligns said moveable cutting die to said hole allowing for said moveable cutting die to be moved through said hole;

a fixed size slot in said frame with said fixed size slot extending partially through said frame to accept and restrain said sheet of said material prior to said sheet of said material being punched;

and a means to activate said moveable cutting die moving said cutting die to where it contacts said sheet of said material in said fixed size slot cutting said sheet of said material.

17. (previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 16 wherein said cutting surface of said moveable cutting die is formed in a curved shape.

Claims 18, 19 (Canceled)

20.(previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 16 wherein said adjustable apparatus is an externally threaded piece of hardware that is located in a matching threaded insert attached to said frame such that said externally threaded piece of hardware can be rotated within said threaded insert

moving said threaded piece of hardware up and down thereby adjusting and controlling the amount of travel of said moveable cutting die and acting as said stop.

Claims 21 and 22 (Canceled)

23.(previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 16 wherein said means to activate said moveable cutting die is a thumb controlled lever in sliding contact with said moveable cutting die thereby creating the necessary motion when said lever is pushed by said thumb.

Claim 24 (Canceled)

25.(previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 16 further comprising a housing to enclose said frame and to permanently enclose a portion of said means of activating said moveable cutting die.

26.(previously presented) A machine for piercing sheets of material as claimed in claim 16 wherein a portion of said adjustable apparatus is fabricated as an integral part of said housing.

Claims 27- 29 (Canceled)

30.(previously presented) An adjustable apparatus that can be added to existing decorative sheet punches comprising:

said adjustable apparatus acts as a stop to a moveable cutting die containing the punch pattern thereby limiting the amount of a punch pattern cut into a sheet of material being punched;

said moveable cutting die is designed with a curved cutting surface so that said adjustable apparatus can limit the amount of paper cut by that curved surface;

said adjustable apparatus can be moved to a position so that said designed pattern of said punch is cut fully out of said sheet of material paper;

and said adjustable apparatus can be permanently installed on the existing decorative sheet punches.

Claims 31 (Canceled)

Appl. No. 10/701,873

Amdt dated August 3, 2005 reply to Office Action of 6/14/2005

Amendment to the drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings include changes to FIG 1 and to FIG 2. These sheets replace the original sheets containing FIG 1 and FIG 2. An annotated sheet for each of the changed figures is also attached. FIG 3 remains unchanged.

Attachment: 2 replacement sheets

2 Annotated sheets showing changes.